



## Wyoming Department of Education

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### MEMORANDUM NO. 2009 -044

**TO:** School District Superintendents  
School Principals

**FROM:** Jim McBride, Ed.D.

**DATE:** March 6, 2009

**SUBJECT:** Emergency Response Plans

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### COORDINATION REQUIRED

With the impact of Columbine and Virginia Tech, it is obvious that we have entered into a new era of school violence. The Amish shootings demonstrate that school size is irrelevant. Therefore, it is incumbent upon us to be more specific in our plans and more diligent in practicing them with our local law enforcement agencies.

Law enforcement departments have modified their protocol to include situations where people are threatened by an active shooter. Schools should be familiar with the responses that their local law enforcement agencies are practicing and should participate with those agencies as much as possible in actual training of school staff and students. Training leads to a faster response which saves lives.

I encourage all principals and superintendents to contact your local law enforcement agencies to dovetail your existing practices with your local law enforcement agency's emergency response plans.

In addition, I strongly encourage you to ensure that all teachers and students know about the 1-800-78-CRIME statewide anonymous tip line. More posters are available if you need them. The tip line can be a valuable tool to use in concert with your emergency response plans.

Thank you for your care and diligence.

JM:BH